

REMARKS

As of the filing of the present reply, claims 1-23 were pending in the above-identified US Patent Application.² With this reply, Applicants have amended the specification to correct typographical errors.

Election of Species Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner required that Applicants make an election of species under 35 USC §121 among embodiments of the invention shown in Figure 1 (Species A), Figure 2 (Species B), Figure 3 (Species C) and Figure 4 (Species D). The Examiner required that Applicants elect a single species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Examiner stated that no claim is generic.

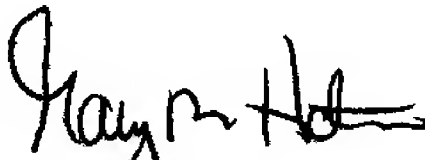
Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Species D (Figure 4), which Applicants believe encompasses claims 21-23.

² The Office Action incorrectly identifies the application as containing claims 1-30.

Application No. 10/708,509
Technology Center 3767
Reply dated September 30, 2009
In Response to Office Action dated September 3, 2009

Should the Examiner have any questions with respect to any matter
now of record, Applicants' representative may be reached at (219) 462-4999.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary M. Hartman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a stylized "H".

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